In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows.

Claim 39, line 3, delete "according to claim 1"; and

Claim 40, line 3, delete "according to claim 1".

Please amend claim 34 as follows:

34. (Amended) A method according to claim ~~54~~ 56 [33], wherein flt3-L is used in combination with a cytokine selected from the group consisting of CSF-1, GM-CSF, SF, G-CSF, EPO, IL-1, IL-2, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-7, IL-8, IL-9, IL-10, IL-11, IL-12, IL-13, IL-14, IL-15, GM-CSF/IL-3 fusion proteins, LIF and FGF, and sequential or concurrent combinations thereof.

Please cancel claims 33, 37 and 38.

Add the following new claims:

54. (New) An improved method for conducting autologous transplantation in a patient receiving cytoreductive therapy, the method comprising:

(a) collecting hematopoietic progenitor or stem cells from the patient prior to receipt of cytoreductive therapy; and

(b) administering such collected cells to the patient after receipt of cytoreductive therapy; wherein the improvement comprises the step of administering an effective amount of human flt3-L to the patient prior to the cell collection of step (a) to increase the number of circulating progenitor cells or stem cells available for collection.

55. (New) An improved method for conducting autologous transplantation in a patient receiving cytoreductive therapy, the method comprising:

(a) collecting hematopoietic progenitor or stem cells from the patient prior to receipt of cytoreductive therapy; and

(b) administering such collected cells to the patient after receipt of cytoreductive therapy; wherein the improvement comprises the step of contacting said collected progenitor cells or stem cells *ex vivo* with an effective amount of human flt3-L prior to administering such collected cells to the patient after receipt of cytoreductive therapy.

56. (New) An improved method for conducting autologous transplantation in a patient receiving cytoreductive therapy, the method comprising:

(a) collecting hematopoietic progenitor or stem cells from the patient prior to receipt of cytoreductive therapy; and

(b) administering such collected cells to the patient after receipt of cytoreductive therapy; wherein the improvement comprises the step of administering an effective amount of human flt3-L to the patient after receipt of cytoreductive therapy to facilitate the engraftment of the progenitor or stem cells in the patient.

10 ~~57~~. (New) A method according to claim ~~55~~ 9, wherein flt3-L is used in combination with a cytokine selected from the group consisting of CSF-1, GM-CSF, SF, G-CSF, EPO, IL-1, IL-2, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-7, IL-8, IL-9, IL-10, IL-11, IL-12, IL-13, IL-14, IL-15, GM-CSF/IL-3 fusion proteins, LIF and FGF, and sequential or concurrent combinations thereof.

11 ~~58~~. (New) A method according to claim ~~57~~ 10, wherein flt3-L is used in combination with a cytokine selected from the group consisting of GM-CSF, SF, G-CSF, EPO, IL-3 and GM-CSF/IL-3 fusion proteins.

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12 ~~59~~. (New) A method according to claim ~~56~~ 12, wherein flt3-L is used in combination with a cytokine selected from the group consisting of CSF-1, GM-CSF, SF, G-CSF, EPO, IL-1, IL-2, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-7, IL-8, IL-9, IL-10, IL-11, IL-12, IL-13, IL-14, IL-15, GM-CSF/IL-3 fusion proteins, LIF and FGF, and sequential or concurrent combinations thereof.

13 ~~60~~. (New) A method according to claim ~~59~~ 13, wherein flt3-L is used in combination with a cytokine selected from the group consisting of GM-CSF, SF, G-CSF, EPO, IL-3 and GM-CSF/IL-3 fusion proteins.

REMARKS

The Specification is amended to provide the current status of the applications from which this application is derived. Claims 33, 37 and 38 are canceled. Claim 33 is canceled and rewritten as three independent claims (54-56) in order to more clearly define what applicants consider as their invention. Claim 34 is amended to correct dependency. Claims 57-60 are added to present the claimed subject matter of claim 34 into dependent claims. Claims 37 and 38 are canceled in response to the Examiner's restriction requirement, declaring the subject matter of claims 37 and 38 to be directed to a different invention. Applicants cancel such claims in an effort to expedite prosecution of the remaining claims. Applicants reserve the right to claim the subject matter of claims 37 and 38 in a properly filed

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